

From: Matthew C. Grimes
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: settlement

Please take the response from Red Hat Linux seriously. Linux is not a college student's project, nor is it only for servers and high end research computing.

Linux provides a low cost, highly secure, thoroughly modern computing solution for educational, institutional, governmental, commercial, and personal use. Very few computer viruses are known to affect a properly configured Linux computer.

I believe the settlement should address the key issue with Microsoft's business practices, which are oriented towards one thing, market domination, to the exclusion of all other vendors. Microsoft's offer does not adversely affect the company financially, and is merely a PR stunt. In addition, it secures Microsoft a foothold in the minds of children.

It would be far better to require MS to provide all donations in hardware and let Red Hat or other Linux providers provide the operating system and software. This decreases, rather than increases MS's actual and intellectual market share. It also is a better deal for schools because they could get more computers, and have them be cheaper and easier to maintain. It would be better for children because of the vast array of software such as office and productivity, C++, Java, HTML and other development software, servers, graphical design, CAD, CAM, GIS, financial management and other software that could be used in the schools for absolutely no cost.

Microsoft's offer is nothing more than a hare's foot asking to be thrown into a briar patch.

Please do the right thing for America's children, and the world's computer industry.

Thank you for your time

Matt Grimes